

Classifying Sentences by Purpose

21. Depending on its purpose, a sentence may be classified as *declarative, imperative, interrogative, or exclamatory*.

(1) A **declarative sentence** makes a statement and ends with a period.

EXAMPLE I wonder how the fans will react to our victory.

(2) An **imperative sentence** gives a command or makes a request. Most imperative sentences end with a period. A strong command ends with an exclamation point.

EXAMPLES Please tell the coach that I'll be a little late. Look at that score!

(3) An **interrogative sentence** asks a question and ends with a question mark.

EXAMPLE Are you coming to the celebration at the coach's house tonight?

(4) An **exclamatory sentence** shows excitement or expresses strong feeling and ends with an exclamation point.

EXAMPLE We finally beat the Cougars!

EXERCISE Punctuate each of the following sentences with an appropriate end mark. Then, on the line provided, classify each sentence by writing *DECL* for *declarative*, *IMP* for *imperative*, *INT* for *interrogative*, or *EXCL* for *exclamatory*.

Example IMP 1. What a great team!

- _____ 1. How were we able to win
- _____ 2. We won by using our superior skill and stamina
- _____ 3. Stop gloating
- _____ 4. Oh, why shouldn't we brag just a bit
- _____ 5. It's never becoming to brag
- _____ 6. I can't believe we won
- _____ 7. Keep your excitement to yourself
- _____ 8. Do you hear that applause
- _____ 9. It's so loud
- _____ 10. Let's go accept our trophy